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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Szczecin Shipyard	DATE DISTR.	15 September 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD 25X1
		REFERENCES	

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1. The largest part of the Szczecin Free Port belongs to the Soviets, i.e. the northern part as far as the Czechoslovakian port on the island of Ewa. The Poles have the small southern part of this port and it is separated from the Soviet section by a fence which is guarded by Soviet sentries. Generally speaking, the Soviet section of the harbor is Lasztownia. There are about 30,000 Germans residing in Szczecin (Stettin) and they are nearly all employed by the Soviets in various establishments.
2. More Soviet ships have been arriving in Szczecin in the past several months than before; about six to eight Liberty ships a week. These ships are usually empty when they arrive in Szczecin, although at times they have small cargoes of wood, leather, and even some machines. However, when they leave they are loaded with the following types of Polish, German, Czechoslovakian and Hungarian goods: various types of factory equipment, infantry weapons, hospital equipment, medicines, furniture, linen, shoes, dress materials, electric tools and parts, chemical fertilizers, coal, and many other goods.
3. The Szczecin shipyard is constructing new ships for the USSR, the majority of which are freighters of the Polish SOLDEK class, of about 2,500 BRT each. [redacted] the shipyard will construct about eight or nine of these ships and will launch one of these ships every three months. [redacted] the shipyard is hampered by the lack of machines which formerly came from western European countries.
4. About 500 workers are employed in the shipyard in two shifts. Work is carried out somewhat arbitrarily, despite much planning and talk of planning.
5. The yard suffers from a shortage of many tools and machinery for making and adapting parts. There is a plan for rapidly equipping the yard with the necessary machinery, to be carried out concurrently with shipbuilding and repairing.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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6. Up until the present time no repairs to ships have been completed in the scheduled time; for example, the repairs on the KOPERNIK took a month longer than was planned. During the period when this ferry was undergoing repair, April and May, two landing craft of the Polish Navy [] were also repaired. 25X1
7. The shipyard is already fairly well equipped for building new ships and has been further expanded. There are now four slipways, and ships of up to 4,000 GRT can be built.
8. In the spring of 1953 two ships built for the USSR were launched. [] Two more ships of the same class were launched in July and possibly another was completed and delivered to the USSR.¹ By the end of 1953 three more are to be launched, probably in November. All these ships are intended for the USSR and in the future this yard is to build six ships for the USSR each year. 25X1
9. The building of ships' hulls proceeds far more quickly than their equipment, because the necessary engines never arrive from the West on time, and no engines are delivered from the USSR. In the future new ships' engines are to be imported to Poland []. The delivery of [] ships' engines and motors has been interrupted. 25X1
1. [] Comment: [] four freighters, built in the Szczecin shipyard, were delivered to the USSR this year. They were about 1,500 GRT and had 1,800 hp. engines which were of East German manufacture. 25X1

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